



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

05:046

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, May 12, 2005

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## **Secretary of State McPherson Reports New Initiative Enters Circulation**

*State Court Orders and Judgments. Publication of Appellate Decisions.  
Initiative Constitutional Amendment*

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that the proponent of a new initiative dealing with court rulings may begin collecting petition signatures to qualify his measure for a state election ballot.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

STATE COURT ORDERS AND JUDGMENTS. PUBLICATION OF APPELLATE DECISIONS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Provides that if any fact supporting a state court order or judgment is shown to be false at any future time, the court must vacate the order or judgment. Prohibits the judge who vacates the order or judgment from making any other order in the case. Provides that orders and judgments are not final until consistent with published law. Requires that all California Court of Appeal and California Supreme Court decisions be published, and that any such decisions that change the law shall only have prospective application.

The summary of the estimate by the Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of the fiscal impact on state and local governments: Unknown court-related costs exceeding \$10 million annually to the state and potentially in the millions of dollars on a statewide basis to local government.

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1137 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2005RF0071.

The proponent, Melvin D. Phillips, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, equal to eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify the measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is October 11, 2005. The initiative proponent can be reached at 818-222-1348.

For a copy of the full text, title & summary, and circulation calendar for the initiative, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.